

AVIATION RULEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ARAC)

Rotorcraft Issues

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 27, 2006
Time: 10:15 a.m. (CST)
Place: Dallas, Texas

The Assistant Chair, Mr. John Swihart, called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. The attendees introduced themselves and signed the attendance sheet (Attachment 1). Mr. Swihart distributed the FAA Office of Rulemaking Advisory Committee Feedback Form to the meeting attendees. He explained that the form was an ISO product and asked attendees to please fill out the form and return it to him before the end of the meeting.

Mr. Mark Schilling, Assistant Executive Director, read instructions governing the conduct of the meeting, and the agenda (Attachment 2) was distributed.

Status reports and working group presentations were made as described below:

Damage Tolerance and Fatigue Evaluation of Composite Rotorcraft Structure:

Mr. Charles Harrison (FAA) provided a status of this working group (WG). He reported that this is the only WG that is currently active. Bob Wardlaw has taken over as chair from D.L. Reddy. The Legal review of the draft NPRM is complete and the FAA is in the process of incorporating Plain Language in the document. He said he hopes to have this done within a month. He will then send the document to the WG for review. After approval from the WG, it will be sent to the RIG for review and for a vote. Mr. Swihart asked that when the material is ready to go to the WG, that Mr. Harrison and Mr. Wardlaw call or email WG members to bring them up to speed. The WG has a month to review. Mr. Swihart told the meeting attendees that when the composite package is ready to be voted on he will schedule a meeting. He stated that a notice will be published in the Federal Register announcing the meeting details. Hopefully this will occur in the next 3 to 6 months.

FAA Status Report: Performance and Handling Qualities Requirements NPRM

Ms. Caren Waddell (FAA) stated that the NPRM is being coordinated through FAA headquarters. She also stated that the Rotorcraft Directorate has been working closely with FAA headquarters to ensure that the NPRM is published as soon as possible.

FAA Status Report: Fatigue Evaluation of Metallic Rotorcraft Structures

Ms. Sharon Miles (FAA) gave an update on the status of the NPRM/AC package. She reported that the draft AC was approved by RIG in September 2005. The draft NPRM and AC material was sent out for internal FAA comments and the comment period closed on 1-30-06. She is currently reviewing the comments received and said if there was any technical comments, they would have to be sent to the Working Group; however, she said it appears that all the comments are editorial.

Other Business

Mr. Swihart gave a brief synopsis of the last ARAC Executive Committee meeting. He mentioned that the FAA Office of Rulemaking is now ISO certified. Mr. Swihart then talked about recent staffing updates at EASA. He informed the meeting attendees that Messrs. Massimo Muzzaletti, Mark Winstanley, P.G. Columbo and Ricardo Frollo were hired by EASA to handle rotorcraft certification issues.

Mr. Swihart mentioned that working procedures with EASA were still up in the air. He told the group that the recent HIRF rulemaking is a candidate for direct adoption into the EASA regulations. Mr. Swihart asked that the EASA website be included in the meeting minutes. EASA regulatory activity will be posted on their website, and it should be checked for any items of interest [<http://www.easa.eu.int/home/>].

Mr. Schilling added that FAA's goal is to continue to maintain harmonization with EASA and to work closely with them to ensure this happens.

Mr. Swihart stated that the FAA has returned the ARAC section to its website after having deleted it last year. He mentioned that ARAC minutes would be available on the website for two years, the current year and the year immediately past. Mr. Swihart let the attendees know that if they tried to access the minutes from the past two meetings it might take longer than usual because the files are large since they include proposed regulatory and AC material.

Mr. Swihart announced that David York is the new Vice President of Regulations and International Affairs at HAI.

Mr. Swihart asked if there was any other business to be discussed. No other business was introduced.

Future Meetings

Mr. Swihart informed the meeting attendees that he hopes to schedule a meeting within the next six months to vote on the composite package. He again told the group that a meeting notice would be published in the Federal Register announcing the meeting details.

Mr. Swihart informed the meeting attendees that the next rotorcraft issues group meeting in conjunction with Heli-Expo would be in Orlando, Florida, and probably on March 2, 2007.

He then reminded members that meeting minutes would be available approximately 30 days after the meeting on the ARAC Section of the FAA website. The website address is http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/rulemaking/committees/arac/.

Mr. Swihart announced that Mr. Schilling is now the deputy director of the Rotorcraft Directorate. Mr. Swihart told the group to expect a new Executive Director of the ARAC RIG soon.

Mr. Swihart reminded everyone to sign the sign-in sheet if they hadn't already.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Attendance

Eighteen people, including committee members, members of the public, and government employees attended the February 27, 2006, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee meeting on Rotorcraft Issues.

Public Notification

The Federal Register published an announcement of the meeting on February 13, 2006.

Approval

I certify the above minutes are accurate.

/s/

Mr. John Swihart
Assistant Chair for ARAC Rotorcraft Issues

Issued: April 7, 2006

Attachments

AVIATION RULEMAKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROTORCRAFT ISSUES MEETING

DALLAS, TEXAS

February 27, 2006, 10:15 a.m.

Member (M) Non-member (NM)	Name	Affiliation	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
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M	MARK SCHILLING	FAA	817-222-5171		mark.schilling@faa.gov
	KATHY JONES	FAA			Kathy.L.Jones@FAA.GOV
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DAVE DOWNEY

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CAREN WADDELL

AGENDA
ARAC RIG Meeting
Dallas Convention Center
Room D171
650 South Griffin Street
Dallas, Texas 75202
214-939-2700

To participate by phone: 817-222-4871, pass code 5359#

February 27, 2006; 10:15 AM CST

Call to Order	Mr. John Swihart, Assistant Chair
Self Introduction	All Present
Administrative Guidance	Mr. Mark Schilling, FAA
Working Group Status Reports:	
Damage Tolerance and Fatigue Evaluation of Composite Rotorcraft Structure	Mr. Charles Harrison, FAA Mr. Bob Wardlaw, Working Group (WG) Chair
FAA Status Report:	
Performance and Handling Qualities Requirements NPRM	Ms. Caren Waddell, FAA
Fatigue Tolerance Evaluation of Metallic Structure proposed NPRM and AC package	Mrs. Sharon Miles, FAA
Other Business	Mr. John Swihart, Assistant Chair
Future Meetings	Mr. John Swihart, Assistant Chair
Adjourn	Mr. John Swihart, Assistant Chair

Minutes of this meeting will be available approximately 30 days after this meeting on the FAA website at http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/rulemaking/committees/arac/.